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Agenda item 2

Draft of terms of reference Ad Hoc Working Group on interrelationship between investment and technology transfer

Agreed text submitted by the Chairman of Drafting Group A

1. To examine, using case studies, the interrelationship between investment flows, particularly to developing countries, including least developed countries, and the transfer, absorption and generation of technology and related policy measures

2. (a) To identify the main factors conducive to technology transfer through foreign investment that will facilitate technology flows and increase technological absorptive capacities.

(b) To analyse the role of intellectual property protection in international investment and technology flows and in the development of endogenous technological capabilities.

3. To examine through case studies, the role played by private firms, governments and international organizations in the transfer of technology, related improvement of entrepreneurial capabilities, and in the creation and dissemination of technology, including investment in R & D and training.

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4 To consider the impact of technological change, including new and emerging technologies, on investment decisions and production patterns, trade competitiveness and national capacities for innovation and adaptation. To consider also, the role of foreign investment in technology transfer and technology development, including organizational technology.

5. To examine and encourage new initiatives and exchange of experiences on investment and technology policies that are conducive to overcome constraints and facilitate technology transfer through investment, and the generation, transfer and diffusion of technology, including environmentally sound technologies which have an impact on competitiveness and development.